

Occupational Safety and Health in Panama

PANAMA

Area:

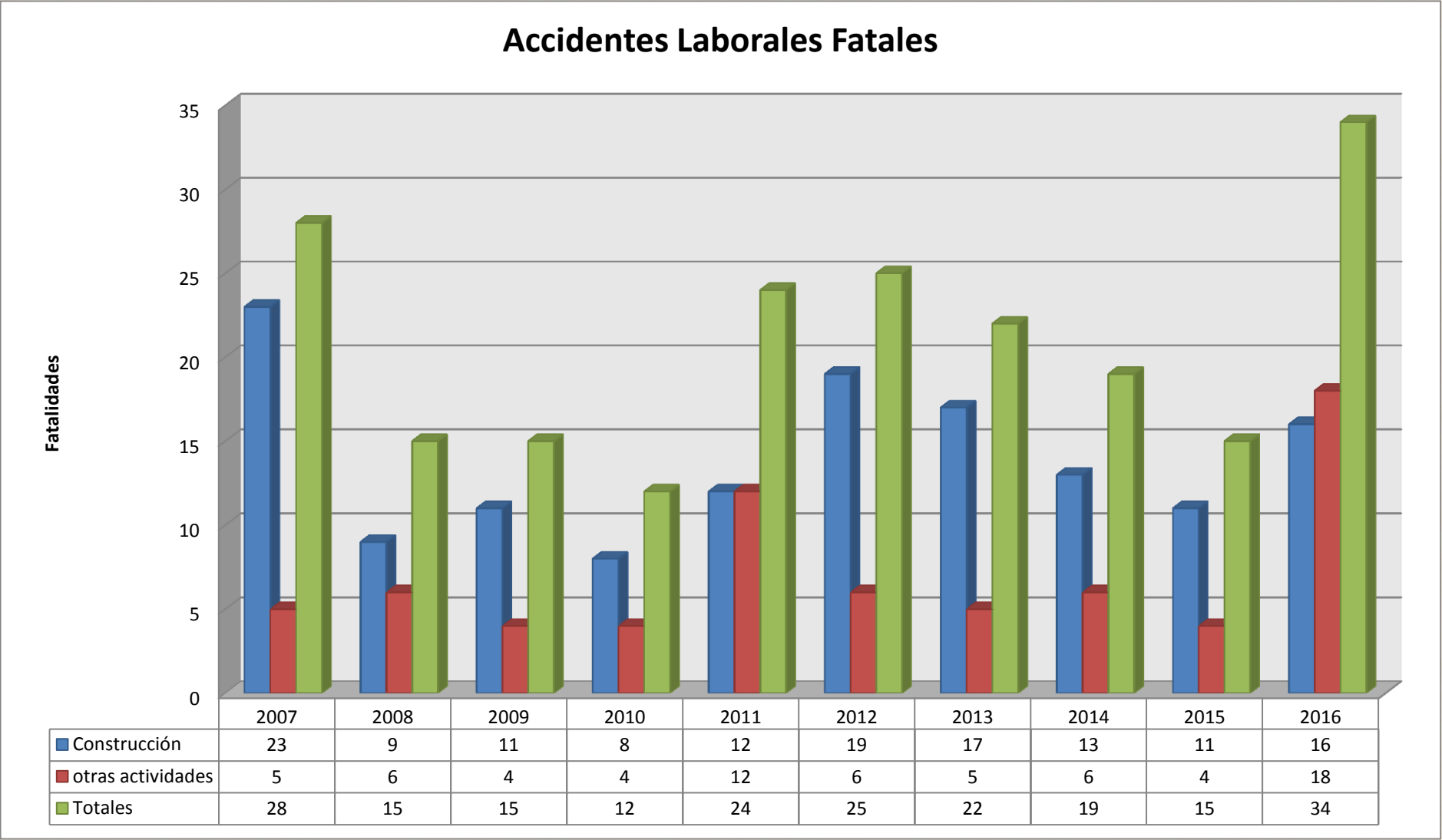
- 75,417 kms²

Population:

- 4,034,119



Data of Fatal Occupational Accidents



Prior years Statistics

[illegible]

Major regulations covering prevention of occupational accidents and disease

- Through the Act 68 of 1970 the Social Security Fund starts as insurance of Professional Risks.
- November 5, 1977 Occupational Safety and Health Program gets created by the SSF.
- Political Constitution
- Sanitary Code
- International Agreements
- Law 51 of the Social Security Fund
- Work Code
- General Regulations of the Prevention of Professional Risks and Safety and Health at Work
- Administrative Career Manual
- Internal Regulations of Companies and Institutions

Institutional framework in charge of occupational safety and health

Ministry of Labour

In charge of defining politics, regulations and laws, inspections and applying sanctions

Ministry of Health

Social Security Fund

Responsible of the Prevention Programs, charging employers and employees and paying pensions.

Technical Professionals:

- Labor inspectors
- Technicians in Occupational Safety
 - Environmental higienists
 - Chemists
 - Ergonomists

Health Professionals:

- Occupational Doctors
- Occupational Nurses
- Occupational Psychologists
- Occupational Social Workers
- Occupational Therapists

Regional offices

Attention in 2015

83,124
workers
medically
assisted

398 OSH
committees
assessed

\$2,225,000.00
in payments

17,729
workers
trained

1,710
companies

Forms of Attention

- If a Labor Accident:
 - ER
 - First Attention
 - Follow up by Occupational Health Dpt
- Referred by another doctor
- Employees doubts on occupational disease

Companies attended in 2015

Provincia	N° de Empresas Visitadas		Proyectos de Construcción
Panamá	Nuevas	Seguimiento	26
	485	249	
Coclé	Nuevas	Seguimiento	20
	45	77	
Herrera	Nuevas	Seguimiento	11
	46	47	
Los Santos	Nuevas	Seguimiento	24
	46	30	
Veraguas	Nuevas	Seguimiento	31
	58	186	
Chiriquí	Nuevas	Seguimiento	66
	172	144	
Bocas del Toro	Nuevas	Seguimiento	27
	93	27	
Colon	Nuevas	Seguimiento	11
	63	64	
Total	1008	824	216

Challenges

As a user, what can be perceived:

- No coordination between the authorities
- Duplicity of functions
- Responsibilities are not clear
- Lack of trained personnel in companies and in Responsible Organizations
- Lack of training opportunities
- No seriousness in the compliance with the law.
- Main Challenge: change mentality of managers and business owners on the importance of investing in safety.

Thankyou!